

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-10 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /110 W
-----027722 060411Z /11

R 051637Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4486
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 04909

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PORG, KN, SP
SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS NOT RECEIVED BY SPANISH
GOVERNMENT

REF: SEOUL 3540

1. THE NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE SPANISH
COMMUNIST PARTY (PCE) CONGRESS WERE NOT RECEIVED BY ANY
SPANISH OFFICIAL, ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
CHIEF FOR PACIFIC AFFAIRS (ZURITA), AND IN FACT HAD NOT
EVEN MADE THE EFFORT SO FAR AS HE WAS AWARE. ZURITA
EXPLAINED THAT A SIMILAR DELEGATION HAD COME TO MADRID
LAST YEAR TO ATTEND A PCE MEETING, AND HAD BEEN TURNED
DOWN IN ITS ATTEMPT TO BE RECEIVED OFFICIALLY. THIS YEAR,
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SAID ZURITA, THEY PRESUMABLY KNEW WHAT THE RESPONSE WOULD
BE, AND DID NOT EVEN TRY.

2. ACCORDING TO ZURITA, THE GOS POSITION, WHICH INCLUDES
A BASIC POLICY OF HAVING RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES,
HOLDS IN THE CASE OF KOREA THAT RELATIONS ALREADY EXIST --
WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SOUTH. NORTH KOREAN EFFORTS

IN THE PAST TO ARGUE A PARALLEL WITH THE TWO GERMANIES, CONTINUED ZURITA, HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY THE GOS AS SIMPLY NOT HOLDING UP. THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE NOT GIVEN UP ENTIRELY, BUT HAVE DROPPED DIRECT OFFICIAL APPROACHES IN FAVOR OF UTILIZING SUCH OCCASIONS AS INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIRS AND THE LIKE TO HAVE A NORTH KOREAN REP BRACE A SPANISH COUNTERPART.

3. THE GOS HAD NOT HESITATED IN GRANTING THE NORTH KOREANS VISAS TO ATTEND THE PCE MEETINGS, SAID ZURITA, SINCE A REFUSAL TO ALLOW INVITEES TO ATTEND SUCH MEETINGS OF A LEGAL POLITICAL PARTY WOULD RESULT IN A DOMESTIC POLITICAL WRANGLE BETTER AVOIDED. IN OBSERVANCE OF DIPLOMATIC NICETIES, THE VISAS (ISSUED IN MOSCOW) WERE NOT PLACED IN THE NORTH KOREAN PASSPORTS.

4. ACCORDING TO A SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY OFFICER, THE NORTH KOREANS WHILE HERE ALSO CONTACTED THE SOCIALIST PSOE (THE MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTY), AND REITERATED THE INVITATION PREVIOUSLY EXTENDED FOR PSOE SEC GEN FELIPE GONZALEZ TO VISIT NORTH KOREA. ACCORDING TO THE SOUTH KOREAN DIPLOMAT, PSOE OFFICIALS FENDED OFF THE APPROACH ON THE GROUNDS THAT GONZALEZ WAS NOT IN TOWN. WE NOTE THAT NORTH KOREA WAS VISITED BY PSOE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY LUIS YANEZ LAST DECEMBER IN CONNECTION WITH A TRIP TO JAPAN. EATON
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NNN

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